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SOURCE Wen-hui Pao.

DIKE REPAIR WORK FOR LABOR RELIEF  
AND FLOOD PREVENTION

ONE MILLION PEOPLE WORKING -- Wen-hui Pao, 8 Jan 50

Shang-hai, 5 January -- Over one million people in Shangtung, Kiangsu, and Anhwei provinces are engaged in a large-scale program of dike repair and flood control. This work is being undertaken largely as a labor-relief measure, and partly to insure full agricultural production during the coming spring and summer by remedying conditions which expose these regions to floods during the next rainy season. The program consists of three main projects and numerous smaller features:

1. Repair or construction of 1,200 kilometers of main dikes on the Ch'ang Chiang and Huai Ho, and of subsidiary dikes on their various tributaries.
2. Regulation of the I Ho (Ueda: 6008, 6045), a large river which flows from Shantung into the Huai Ho in Kiangsu.
3. Cutting of a channel for the Shu Ho (6040, 6045) through a range of hills so that it may flow more directly into the sea instead of inundating a basin of great area, as has frequently happened in past years.

The work is being financed largely by the supply of grain rations to the workers, about two-thirds of which is supplied by the local governments and one-third by the East China Finance and Economic Commission. Project 1 calls for more than 20 million man-days. Project 2 involves the digging of channels totaling 200 kilometers to permit water from the I Ho to flow into the Shu Ho in the neighborhood of Shu-yang, Kiangsu. Besides the earthwork required for 120 kilometers of new channels, Project 3 calls for the excavation of 3,200,000 fang [one fang is roughly equivalent to 100 cubic feet] of rock for the channel through the hills. In this work alone 30,000 men are to be used.

The dikes are to be standardized: 5 meters wide on top, and from 1/2 to one meter higher than the high-water mark of the great 1931 flood. Also involved in the plans of this program are the digging of wells, water-storage ponds, drainage ditches, the planting of trees and other vegetation cover for the embankments, and the opening up of new land for cultivation.

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DIKE-REPAIR MOVEMENT IN CENTRAL CHINA -- Wen-hui Pao, 7 Jan 50

Han-k'ou, 5 January -- A movement has been launched in Honan, Hupeh, Kiangsi, and Hunan to repair old dikes and build new embankments during this winter and the coming spring. In some sections work has already started.

PEARL RIVER CONSERVANCY -- Wen-hui Pao, 8 Jan 50

Kuang-chou, 8 January -- Seventy-four engineers are being sent out on 9 January by the Chu Chiang (Pearl River) Conservancy Bureau to direct the work of repairing the dikes along the Chu Chiang, Hsi Chiang, and the Pei Chiang. A dike-repair and flood-prevention movement is being promoted by the Kwangtung People's government as a precaution against the possibility of spring floods. This is being carried out in conformity with directives issued 24 December 1949 to all the hsien magistrates in the districts affected. Officials and cadremen are to give personal leadership to the work.

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